

THE POULTRY MESSENGER

& WESTERN FRUIT-GROWER.

Vol. 2.

AURELIA, IOWA, MAY, 1896.

No. 3

**Barred
Plymouth
Rocks.**

Do You Want Eggs

For hatching from good birds of standard quality and large size? My yards are mated to give satisfaction. Send in your order now. Eggs \$1.50 per setting.

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Eggs from high class Light Brahmas, P. Cochins, Barred P. Rocks, R. C. B. Leghorns and Black Minorcas. Circular free.

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Complete set, with full instructions, post-paid, on receipt of \$2.50. 28 p. Capon Book free for 2c. stamp. Poultry Marker 25c. Roup Syringe, 10c.
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EXCLUSIVELY.
Three Grand Pens

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The cockeral arrived all o. k. Don't think I could have found a bird anywhere to suit me any better. Sent him over to St. Louis, won 1st.

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S. C. Brown Leghorns,

Are from the

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Eighteen years experience enables me to Mate For Best Results. Eggs this season \$2.00 for 15. My circular shows the most beautiful cut of a pullet I ever saw. Address

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N. S. Beardsley Strain. Exclusively. Large Frame
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Eggs \$2.00 per Sitting. No Stock for sale.

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Pure Breeds

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All kinds of Poultry Supplies at very low prices. This large book sent to any address for 15 cents.

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Simple, Perfect, Self-Regulating. Thousands in successful operation. Guaranteed to hatch a larger percentage of fertile eggs at less cost than any other Hatcher. Lowest priced first-class Hatcher made. **GEO. H. STAHL,**
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ASPRAYER & HAND PUMP COMBINED.
ALL BRASS FOR \$2.50.
THOUSANDS IN USE. SELLS ON SIGHT. DOUBLE ACTING. THROWS WATER 60 FEET.
BOOK OF SPRAYING RECIPES FREE.
EVERY FARMER & FRUIT GROWER SHOULD SEND FOR CATALOGUE.
ICAN INTEREST YOU LIVE AGENTS WANTED
H. B. RUSLER MFR.
JOHNSTOWN OHIO, U.S.A.



On receipt of 10 cents and the names of ten poultry breeders, we will send the MESSENGER one year. Tote fair with us, and send us only names of breeders, not farmers, except in the case of farmers who breed thoroughbred poultry.

BLACK Langshans, and B. Fly. ROCKS.

Langshan cockerels heading pen score 94 and 94½ points by Emry.

Langshan Eggs \$1.25 per sitting.

Ply. Rock " \$1.00 "

A Sixty per cent hatch guaranteed or order refilled free of cost.

M. PARROTT.

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POWER
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It is profitable to have faith in the power of PATTON'S PAINT. It saves time and labor because of its great covering capacity. It's more economical because of its marvelous durability. Rain or shine, it neither blisters, peels or fades.

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is the only paint fully guaranteed. Beware of pure "white lead paint."

\$1.50 per gallon. Freight paid to any R. R. station east of Denver. A booklet "How to Increase the size of your Home (with paint)," free for the asking, or 18 actual combinations of proper house coloring for four 2-cent stamps, or free from our agents.

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Golden and Buff Wyandottes

EGGS \$2 PER SETTING

In Golden I have a 94 point cock with 12 pullets scoring from 90 to 93 points.

In Buffs I have a fine cockerel from Forsyth with 12 fine pullets—Thiem strain. Other yards as good. I do not inbreed. Satisfaction assured.

MRS. C. COLGROVE,
No. 1109 13th Ave S. E Minneapolis,
Minnesota.

THE POULTRY MESSENGER

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AURELIA, IOWA, MAY, 1896.

No. 3.

Taking Care of Your Patrons.

Those who offer eggs for sale for hatching purposes can find various ways of saving unnecessary expense to their patrons. One thing which is not always looked to as carefully as it might be is the lessening of the express charges by shipping with the company which will make the delivery to the buyer. The charges are always increased by the transference of the package from one company to another. It will be to the seller's interest to ascertain what company is doing business at the point from which the order is received, and thus give his customer the advantage of the continuous haul, whenever it is possible to do so. This can usually be done by persons living near the cities and large towns, and even many villages are entered by two railroads, and possess the advantage of competing express companies. The buyer of eggs should be careful to state what companies have offices where he resides, and give instructions on this point in connection with his order. In this way he will often save from one-third to one-half the transportation charges which he would otherwise be obliged to pay. But if he neglects to do this the seller of the eggs will do his customer a good turn by looking after the matter for him, and the friendly act is not likely to be forgotten by his patron.

When eggs are to be expressed, the buyer should always be notified by letter a few days in advance of the time that they are delivered into the hands of the express company. Failure to do this has often resulted in the ruin of the eggs. The buyer, having no notice that the eggs have been shipped, makes no inquiry at the express office, and the agents do not always take the trouble to apprise him of their arrival. The result is that the eggs lie in the office a week or more, and in many instances this is sufficient to completely spoil

them. Many of our readers have no doubt met with unfavorable results with eggs which could not be attributed to any other cause than this. Eggs which have perhaps been shipped several hundred miles, and then allowed to remain for this length of time unpacked and in one position, must certainly be injured thereby, if not totally ruined. No experienced breeder would subject his eggs to such treatment and expect to obtain a good hatch from them.

It pays the breeder of choice poultry to take the best possible care of his patrons. In this respect his business is the same as that of the merchant, and people of every other occupation who sell to the public. His success depends quite as much upon this as upon the quality of his stock.

Where Will You Ship?

It is none too early for breeders of poultry to begin to look about them for a safe commission house to send their market stock to which will be culled out of this year's hatch. If one does not know of such a firm, and takes it for granted that one commission house is about as good as another, the chances are that he will be wiser before the close of the year. All commission houses that promise top prices and prompt returns, are not to be trusted. Some of them make a practice of taking the stranger in in a way which is bad for the stranger. This writer lined the pockets of a number of men in that business with a big handful of hard earned dollars before he learned that fact. The thieving commission merchant has a soft snap, and the fact that this is so is a temptation for men of bad character to engage in that business. The opportunities for theft are first class, if one has the disposition to improve them. After your property is delivered into his clutches he can do with it as he pleases and you have no

recourse. You cannot go to law with him, for even if you should win your case it will cost you more than your shipment is worth. The only safe course is to keep out of his power. The deadbeat will find new victims every year, but don't allow yourself to get caught in the crowd. There are reputable commission merchants in every large city with whom you are sure to get a square deal. It will only cost you a stamp to find out who they are, and the stamp will be put to a good use even if your shipment does not consist of more than a few dozen fowls.

Better Than the Average.

Men and women with the disposition, the intelligence and the means to own and breed thoroughbred poultry are, in nine cases out of ten, above the average of human kind. They are, for a fact. The more you think about this the more you will appreciate its truth. We have learned it through correspondence and in various other ways.—Reliable Poultry Journal.

Geo. J. Nissly, of Saline, Michigan, announces elsewhere in these columns that after June 10th he will furnish eggs from his yards at just half price. No better fowls are produced anywhere than those which come from Mr. Nissly's yards. His reputation is so well established that a word of recommendation from the MESSENGER, or, in fact, from any poultry journal, would be simply superfluous. We only intend to call the attention of our readers to the fact that here is as good an opportunity as they will ever have to obtain eggs from first class stock at a nominal price. We wonder that anyone in need of such fowls should fail to avail themselves of the chance.

The lawn clippings, if not exposed too long to the sun, will be excellent for the hens next winter.

Opinions of Experienced Breeders.

Last month our columns contained an article by Mr. John Bennett, of Sunman, Indiana, in reference to a popular belief that eggs will chill if exposed to temperatures near the freezing point, and that such eggs will not hatch. Mr. Bennett holds to the belief that the danger of injury to eggs in this manner is greatly overestimated, and recited a number of incidents from his experience tending to show that eggs may be exposed to a temperature but slightly above freezing, and yet produce a reasonably good hatch. We invited an expression of opinion on the subject by other breeders, and the following letters are in response to that request. It will be seen that the larger proportion of the writers are disposed to agree with Mr. Bennett.

G. A. C. CLARKE, LE MARS, IOWA.

I keep my eggs for hatching in Costello egg boxes, in my incubator cellar. The temperature of the room varies very little in 24 hours, the lowest point recorded the past winter being 34 degrees, this for two or three days in succession. I have reason to believe that the fertility of the eggs would not be injured a particle; provided that, when put into an incubator, they were gradually heated up. I would expect better results if the eggs, kept at the above named temperature, were exposed to a heat of 70 or 80 degrees when first put into the incubator, gradually increasing up to 103.

A. H. LANE, KEOSAUQUA, IOWA.

I never tried to make a test of the matter, but I have known of instances where eggs had become severely chilled and yet hatched well. One year ago last March I received from a distance four sittings of very choice eggs. The weather was cold and the night before I received them there was a hard freeze. The eggs must have been chilled to near the freezing point, and I thought them ruined. But I concluded to set them, and did so. I never had a better hatch than from those eggs, and this experience has convinced me that eggs will stand a great deal of cold weather without injury to them for hatching purposes.

J. J. BEAN, ABBOTSFORD, WIS.

We have never experimented with eggs in a manner which would be required to enable us to say positively

what would be the result of such exposure. But we honestly believe, that notwithstanding Mr. Bennett's statement to the contrary, they can be chilled so their hatching qualities will be seriously impaired if not altogether destroyed; and this without being actually frozen. I have also shipped eggs in January with good results, but I have given the credit of this to careful handling by the express agents. I am a locomotive engineer, and am acquainted with several express messengers and agents who are fanciers, who understand that eggs need careful handling, and who pride themselves on having some feeling for our feathered friends, as well as their owners. Mr. Bennett's cold storage man may have been a fisherman some time in his life, and thereby acquired a fisherman's usual proficiency in story telling. And feeling so highly elated over his success in that line sought to add a little more to his cup of glory by telling an incubation story. We do not for a moment question Mr. Bennett's veracity. We have great respect for his opinions about poultry, as he has been a breeder about as many years as we are old. No doubt it is a fact that the cold storage man told him this story, but that does not make it true. To fully convince myself I shall make a test trial of the matter, and address you later on the subject.

O. P. GREER, BOURBON, INDIANA.

My attention has been called to an article in the MESSENGER for April written by John Bennett in regard to eggs hatching that have been chilled. To many that article will appear exaggerating and doubtful. My own experience and observation corroborate Mr. Bennett's theory. While I do not believe that eggs which have been frozen and cracked, as one writer says, will hatch, yet I am positive that an egg can be chilled and hatch out a lively chick. I have known eggs to hatch that were in the same room unprotected where a bucket of water was frozen over with ice. Some years ago I had two hens sitting on duck eggs in the barn that were due to hatch in three days. In the morning before daylight I went to the barn to feed my horse, as I wanted to get an early start in the country. I found both hens on one nest, and the duck eggs in the other nest apparently as cold as ice. Water in the same room in a bucket was froz-

en over with ice as thick as double strength common window glass. I put the hen back on the cold eggs and went to the house to give my wife a few thoughts on how to look after sitting hens late in the evening, and to break the news that one sitting of her famous duck eggs were numbered with the lost. In three days all the eggs in the nest where they had been chilled hatched out a nice lively Pekin Duck. In the other nest two or three failed to hatch. I am confident that eggs will sometimes hatch after they are thoroughly chilled but would not advise anybody to make a habit of chilling eggs before or after sitting.

JOE FARMER, FLUSHING, OHIO.

My experience is exactly the same as that of Mr. Bennett. I could fill an entire page with testimonials such as he gives you, collected during the twenty years that I have been shipping eggs. But will content myself with the mention of only a few instances. During the most of the month of February last the thermometer ranged from fifteen above to ten below zero. While this weather prevailed I gathered over two hundred eggs for the incubator. I keep eggs for hatching in a box much like an incubator, except that it is open in front. In this box I store the eggs on trays with wire bottoms, so as to allow free passage of air between the trays, and also between the eggs. During the cold weather I kept a large lamp burning on the cellar floor and tried to keep the temperature about 34 degrees, but one night the lamp went out and in the morning I found the thermometer registering 29. Potatoes were frozen, and a thin skim of ice was formed on the milk. The potatoes were in barrels, as well or better protected than the eggs. I took the eggs up stairs and kept them for two days in the family living room. I then put them in the incubator and obtained a 75 per cent hatch of good strong chicks. If eggs are from strong, vigorous stock, well fertilized, there is—in my opinion—no danger so long as they are not actually frozen. And an egg will not freeze as readily as a potato, as the membrane inside of the shell does not admit of a very rapid change of temperature, besides the ingredients of the egg are slower to yield to the cold. I aim to form no theories on this or any subject except what I have gathered from practical experience.

Not All Buff.

The person who has just caught the buff fever had better dismiss the expectation of obtaining fowls of a perfectly uniform color from the eggs which he buys this season. This is not saying that such fowls do not exist, but if such is the fact, they are exceedingly rare. We have seen it stated a few times in advertisements that somebody had Buff Plymouth Rocks or Buff Wyandottes that were buff throughout. Not having seen these birds, it would not be the correct thing for us to say that these people have not got what they advertise. But we are ready to declare that if they are telling the exact truth, they are in possession of something better than a gold mine. There is nothing to prevent them from getting rich if they can convince the public that they have a personal reputation which would make them acceptable as creditable witnesses in the courts of justice of their own district. The color is better established in the Buff Leghorns, and those who buy eggs of this variety can reasonably expect better results in the way of the desired tint.

A short time ago we saw a letter from one of the best known breeders of Buff Wyandottes in the west. It was in answer to one sent him by a poultryman who wanted a rooster that was to be buff throughout. The person addressed said in reply that he had never seen a fully matured Buff Wyandotte of that description, and would willing pay fifty dollars to anybody who would furnish him with one. This breeder's stock is on exhibition at all the large poultry shows in the west, and he is usually in attendance himself at the places where his birds are shown. If such birds as have been above referred to are as plentiful as some would have us believe, is it not strange that he has not met with them?

It is not our purpose to charge anybody with misrepresentation. We do not say that nobody has Buff Plymouth Rocks or Buff Wyandottes of a perfectly even color, without tinge of black or white in any part of their plumage. Let us be understood on this point. We simply say that we have not seen them, and in our association and correspondence with other breeders, we have not met with anyone who has seen them. But in spite of all this, we admit the

possibility of their existence.

The only object of this article is to save disappointment. Many people with no acquaintance with these breeds other than what has come to them in an indirect way, are becoming purchasers of eggs, and when the chicks are partly grown a large proportion of these buyers will be in a humor to accuse the seller of fraud and imposition. We deem it our duty to warn these people not to expect too much. The seller of the eggs may be a perfectly reliable breeder, though the chicks may not be all buff. Meanwhile if any of these buyers are fortunate enough to obtain a cockerel of solid color we will engage to put them in communication with a person who will pay them as much money for it as will be required to buy a good horse.

Cure For Swelled Crop.

I have had some experience with crop-bound fowls, and find that a piece of bread about an inch long, soaked in kerosene, and given to such fowls at night, will relieve them, so that in nearly every case they will be well the next morning.—Western Poultry Journal,

Prevents Scaly Leg.

It is alleged that Lee's Lice Killer will rid the fowls of scaly leg if it is regularly applied to the perches in the poultry house, and that there will be no appearance of the disease where this is done. We have no doubt that Kentfield's Louse Killer would be equally efficacious in this respect, as there is practically no difference between the effect of the two preparations. The value of these two discoveries to the poultry keeping public is simply beyond computation.

Want a Poultry Marker?

Every keeper of poultry needs a marker. It is a convenient means of preventing the mating of birds closely related, and enables one to identify his fowls in case they are stolen. We will send postpaid as good a marker as is made for three subscribers.

Mottled Eggs.

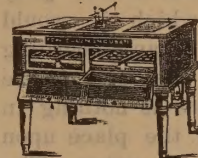
The reader has probably often noticed a peculiar bluish mottled appearance in some of the eggs laid by his hens. An observant poultryman, while

looking over a lot of eggs which the writer recently received from a distance, called our attention to several of the above description, and said that such eggs seldom produced a chick. He advised us to mark the eggs and take note of the result. We did so, and when the hatch was completed we found them all in the nest with shells unbroken. The result in this case confirmed the correctness of our friend's theory in regard to eggs of this character. The idea was new to us, and may be so to others.

FOR SALE

Black and Golden Wyandottes, Blk Minorcas, Andalusians, Leghorns, W. Cochins, Pigeons.

Grand View Poultry Yards,
DUBUQUE, IOWA.

Incubator ON TRIAL.

Try it before you buy it
Highest Award
World's Fair.
Plans of Brooders,
Houses, etc., 25 cts.
Judge of Incubators
at World's Fair

says: "If I were going to buy for myself I would give the Von Culin the preference." Book Incubation, 5 cts.
Von Culin Incubator Co, Delaware City, Del.



Poultry, Farm, Garden, Cemetery,
Lawn, Railroad and Rabbit
Fencing.

Thousands of miles in use. Catalogue Free.
Freight Paid. Prices Low.

The McMULLEN WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO.
114, 116, 118 and 120 N. Market St., CHICAGO, ILL.

Motherly Hens.

Take notice of the good, motherly hens that take the best care of their broods—that bring the youngsters up to the nursery coops at a seasonable hour every evening, and that lead them to shelter on the first appearance of a storm. That kind of a hen is worth keeping to a good old age, for, besides her excellent motherly instincts, she is usually a good layer, and when not engaged with family duties, is doing her full share towards filling the egg basket. All hens are not built that way. Some of them will take their broods

and leave their chicks to their fate. The profits of the poultry keeper depend in no small degree upon the sagacity, motherly ways and cool-headedness of the hens that are entrusted with the responsibility of rearing the broods, and when one is found that fills the bill in this particular in a highly creditable manner, it is a mistake not to keep her as long as she is fit for that kind of service. This writer has several gray headed old biddies which it would break up the business of any boarding house keeper in the land to be caught with, but there is nothing in the feathered line on the place upon which we set a higher value. The chicks from the eggs which have made the biggest hole in our pocket book are always given into their keeping, knowing as we do that they will have the advantage of the very best article of hen-sense in their bringing up. Those hens would not bring twenty-five cents if thrown upon the market, but we are persuaded that their services during the season will be worth to us several dollars apiece over what we would have gained by giving their broods into the care of hens which had not furnished the same proof of their good qualities as mothers.

Wing Clipping.

If you find it necessary to clip the wing of a fowl to prevent flying over the fence, simply cut a large notch out

of the feathers, leaving four feathers next to the body and the same number at the end of the wing. In this way when the wing is folded, the loss of the feathers will scarcely be noticeable, and then if the hen is afterwards needed as a setter, the stiff feathers at the end of the wing will be of assistance to her in keeping the eggs in position. A wing clipped in this manner will be fully as effective in preventing flying over fences as if it were entirely stripped of its feathers. A sharp hatchet is about the best instrument which can be used for this purpose. Place the fowl alongside a block of wood, holding her down by pressure with the knee, spread the wing out over the block, and the job is done quickly and neatly with two blows of the hatchet. It is best to refrain from wing clipping, if possible, especially in the case of hens that are to be given the care of a brood of chicks, but the necessities of the breeder sometimes leave him no choice in the matter. But when it has to be done in order to preserve a garden patch, or prevent the mixing of breeds, don't hack off the feathers from point of wing to body, and thus sadly disfigure the hen, and seriously impair her efficiency as a setter or brooder.

The Brooding Coops.

There is no need of the drowning of the chicks in the nursery coops. These coops can be made so secure that the chicks will be safe in them in any kind of a storm short of a hurricane or a tornado. We lost just one brood of chicks by the blowing away of the coop, but we never expect to lose another in that manner unless it should sometime be our fate to be in the track of a storm which nothing of a movable kind could resist. Here on the prairies one must be prepared for heavy winds, and this fact must not be lost sight of in the location and building of these coops. It is never safe to trust to them unless they are securely anchored to the ground. The readiest means of doing this is to nail them to heavy stakes deeply driven into the ground. When this is done a trench should be shoveled out all around them, and the earth thrown up and well beaten against their sides. A wheelbarrow load of earth dumped on the inside will then prevent the flooding of the coop by the heaviest shower. The roof, as a matter

of course, should be rainproof, and should project ten inches or more over the front, and then if a shower catches you before the door can be closed, the rain cannot beat in at the open space to an extent that would endanger the lives of the chicks. It pays to take time and make these coops secure. In the midst of a heavy downpour of rain there is a comfort in the feeling that the chicks are safely housed which those whose coops are prepared in a careless and slipshod manner know nothing about.

Granulated Bone.

The writer has this season been feeding finely granulated bone to his chicks and though the spring has been a most unfavorable one for rearing the youngsters, our percentage of loss has been smaller than in any former year. We are unable to account for this on any other grounds than the feeding of the bone. Our supply was obtained of the Fitch Fertilizer Works, at Bay City, Michigan. We sift the bone through a wire window screen, giving the finer parts to the chicks, and the coarser to the older fowls.

Golden Wyandottes, AND Golden Seabright Bantams. EXCLUSIVELY.

Eggs in season, \$1.50 per setting: two settings \$2.50. Stock for sale.

Our Stock Has Won

Many prizes for our patrons. We have shown but once, a pen of Bantams at the Rockford, Illinois, show, January, 1896. We won four prizes on them, score 90½, 94, 93, 93, 93.

J. J. BEAN, Abbotsford, Wisconsin.

Buff Plymouth Rocks Exclusively.

A Clean Sweep

At Jackson, Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids, Michigan, '95 and '96.

Choice Breeders For Sale.

My matings this season must produce grand results. My birds are remarkable for their large size, fine symmetry, and true Cochin color.

G. W. HAMM,

BATTLE CREEK, MICH.

An Egg Record.

There are good reasons for supposing that not enough breeders of poultry are as careful as they should be in keeping an egg record. It may be believed that breeders of the very best thoroughbred fowls would increase their business by preserving an exact record of the number of eggs that are laid by their hens, and giving it a place in their circulars, catalogues, and other advertising matter.

There is a widespread belief that thoroughbred fowls are not good layers. Of course this does not obtain among those who have had experience with such stock; these people have been well cured of that idea if it ever found a lodgement in their brains. But on a large proportion of the farms the scrub chicken still "rules the roost," and this is owing in a large measure to a belief that as layers they give better results than the thoroughbreds. If by chance these people happen to get hold of a poultry paper, or come into possession of a breeder's catalogue, they find a very precise statement of the number of points accorded to the birds, but a very indefinite allusion to their merits as layers.

The great majority of farmers obtain the principal part of their profit from poultry out of the eggs, and they are very much more concerned about the capacities of a flock in this particular than in its achievements at the poultry shows. They do not want to breed fowls for the shows, and care very little about their exhibition qualities. It would be a tremendous boost to the fancy poultry business if this class of people could be convinced of the fact that these aristocratic birds which so proudly parade their show record before the public eye, also have an egg record which would knock that of their scrubs into smithereens.

It is a distressing sight to one who has learned the superiority of thoroughbreds in all particulars to see the home premises of a fine farm overrun by a flock of chickens of all colors, shapes and sizes. It is such an abuse of rare privileges and opportunities, for as an actual fact, there is no place like the farm for rearing poultry. And breeders of the best class of poultry are not doing all that lies in their power by way of banishing the scrub from the farms.

Not Easily Counted.

If there are any lice at all on the fowls, or about the quarters where they are kept, the chances are that they are there in larger numbers than the owner believes they are. If one depends altogether upon his unaided eyesight for finding out to what extent the premises are infested with lice he is very apt to deceive himself, unless he resorts to some effective means of driving them from their hiding places. A careful examination will sometimes reveal one or two, or perhaps half a dozen lice on a hen, and the owner will put her down with the thought that there are not enough lice to do any harm, when if he had placed her under a box and subjected her to the fumes of Kentfield's or Lee's lice killer he might have a most positive proof of the fact that her body was overrun with hundreds of lice instead of the half dozen which came under his eye. If lice exist in the poultry house at all it is best to assume that they exist there in sufficient numbers to be a serious annoyance to the hens, and it is never safe to conclude that the few which can be seen even by the most careful examination of the hen's feathers are all that she carries about on her body. The larger proportion of them will elude the eye even when the examination is conducted with the most extreme care.

A short time ago a poultry keeper of our acquaintance was treating his laying hens to a dose of Lee's Lice Killer. This person is regular in his attentions to his poultry houses, removing the droppings three times a week, and whitewashing twice a year. But, in common with all keepers of poultry, he finds that these means will not wholly suffice to keep the lice at a distance. While thus engaged a neighbor appeared on the scene, a man who cleans his poultry house once a year, about garden-making time, and who never whitewashes them, or resorts to any measures for the destruction of the lice. When this neighbor saw the dead lice on the cloth upon which the liquid had been sprinkled, he was horrified, and could not understand how hens could live that were infested with such a multitude of the pests. He had examined a few of his hens, and had found that they had a few lice, but only a very few. Now the person first referred to had only a few weeks before been em-

ployed to dress a lot of this neighbor's fowls for the Chicago market, and was in a position to know that the lice on them were so thick that life was a misery to them. But the owner could not be made to believe it, nor be persuaded to make the test which would have furnished him the proof of the fact. He still believes that his acquaintance who bestows so much attention upon his chickens, has the most lousy lot of fowls on earth, while his own flock, which is left to take care of itself, is comparatively free from the pests. He finds in this another knock-down argument against fooling away valuable time with the chickens.

The counterpart of this man is found everywhere. Perhaps the reader has one or two like him in his neighborhood. He stands as a fair example of the kind of people who laugh at the suggestion that specialists in poultry keeping may be in possession of some points in relation to the employment which he don't know.

"Bean's Buffs"

Won 50 premiums

At Anoka December 20, to 25, 1895, Holden, Judge, and are not striving for business on the record of birds long dead and gone.

75 Fine Birds for Sale. 75

At reasonable prices. Try us. A full line of

Poultry Supplies

And Specialties of all kinds at Rock Bottom Prices. Terms cash. Circular and price list free if you mention the MESSENGER.

Anoka Buff Poultry Yards.
Lock Box 72. ANOKA, MINN.

THE COMET SPRAY & FORCE PUMP

ASPRAYER & HAND PUMP COMBINED.

ALL BRASS FOR \$2.50.

THOUSANDS IN USE.

SELLS ON SIGHT, DOUBLE ACTING.

THROWS WATER 60 FEET.

BOOK OF SPRAYING RECIPES FREE.

EVERY FARMER & FRUIT GROWER SHOULD SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

I CAN INTEREST YOU LIVE AGENTS WANTED.

H. B. RUSLER MFR.

JOHNSTOWN OHIO U.S.A.

Outdoor Setting.

The best way, after all, of setting a hen is to place her in some sheltered spot out of doors where she will be at liberty to leave the nest and seek food and shelter as she may desire. The main trouble is to persuade the hen to accept a nest of this kind. When she comes off the first time or two, instead of returning to the nest, she is apt to make a bee-line for the poultry house, or whatever place she has been in the habit of laying. To prevent this we have adopted the plan of enclosing a small space about the nest with a piece of poultry netting, or a small section of wire and picket fencing. We allow this to remain in place several days, and if the hen is then quietly attending to her business, remove it. There is small likelihood of her deserting the nest after she has of her own accord gone back to it a few times. Of course the nest should be located where the hen will be free from disturbance from the other fowls, or from four-footed prowlers. It involves some labor to arrange a nest out of doors which will answer the purpose intended during the chilly weather of early spring, but it can be done even up here in northern Iowa. An old sugar barrel laid on its side and well banked with earth or manure from the horse stable will make about as comfortable a place for the hen as if she were in the poultry house. The above manner of setting the hens makes more work for the owner than fitting up a hatching room, but the results, as a whole, will be more satisfactory than by any other plan which can be adopted.

Firestine Fired.

The Reliable Poultry Journal announces that it has discontinued the advertisement of Albert F. Firestine, of Logansville, Ohio, and says: "Judging from several complaints we have received, and from other information that has come to our knowledge, we do not think he is a poultry breeder with whom the readers of this paper would care to do business."

No Sure Way.

The color of the plumage by means of which many believe they are able to distinguish between a young and an old fowl, is a very uncertain sign to go by. A very old hen that molted late last

fall will have a fresher looking coat of feathers than the early hatched one year old fowls. There is no one mark which can be fully relied upon for telling the age of fowls. In order to wholly escape mistakes in this respect one should mark every chick as soon as hatched, and keep a record of the manner of marking adopted each year.

Dry Feed for Chicks.

Mr. H. S. Babcock, of Rhode Island, a name which is familiar to poultrymen everywhere, has settled down to the belief that chicks will do best when confined entirely to dry feed. He has entirely discontinued the use of wet up messes for his chicks. When a breeder of such prominence as Mr. Babcock publicly announces such a conclusion as the result of his long experience it may be safely depended upon that there is something in it. However strong our faith in soft, moist feed, it will be well worth our while to try the effect of the plan suggested by this veteran poultry breeder.

Afraid of Her Owner.

The setting hen that gets excited every time her owner attempts to put his hands on her, and flies from the nest in a panic, is a nuisance; but she has been made so by the person who suffers from her wrong-headedness. A well treated hen was never known to be guilty of that sort of conduct. One is not called upon to make pets of his chickens. We don't believe in making pets of anything in the animal line, not even the family horse, but if the keeper of poultry wants to be spared considerable aggravation and trouble during the hatching season, his hens must be taught from the earliest period of their lives that they have no cause to be afraid of him.

The Feather-Eater.

The best way to deal with the feather eating hens is to kill them. There are various means recommended for putting a stop to feather-eating after it has been once begun, but none of them are wholly safe. The quickest and surest way of stamping out the vice is to cut off the head of the hen that begins it. No feather-eater has ever been known to make any further trouble after being treated in that way. It cures every time.

The proprietor of the Nonpareil Poultry Yards, at La Salle, Illinois, has a pen of Rose Comb Brown Leghorns which as egg producers are hard to beat. This particular pen consists of eight hens that averaged 239 eggs inside of nine months.

Their Advertisements Paid Them.

AUSABLE MICH., April 7, 1896.
The Messenger Co.,
Aurelia, Iowa.

Gentlemen: It is with pleasure I write to advise that my small advertisement has provoked more inquiries up to the present date than I anticipated, when contract was made, would be received during the whole year. The MESSENGER seems to circulate among those who desire to better their stock.

Very truly yours,

C. D. BATES.

LA SALLE, ILL., April 9, 1896.
The Messenger Co.,
Aurelia, Iowa.

Gentlemen: I would like to know your rates for another year's contract on same space advertisement. We find the ad., considering the cost, to have paid us well—as well as any we have carried in some of the older and higher priced journals. We also consider the MESSENGER a No. 1 P. Journal and you can consider us life subscribers to it. May you have unlimited success.

J. A. WEERTS,

Successor to Conley & Co.

ANOKA, MINN., March 7, 1896.
The Messenger Co.,
Aurelia, Iowa.

Gentlemen: Your circulation is growing all right. Am getting inquiries every day and making sales too as a result of our advertisement in your valuable journal. Success to you.

W. M. BEAN.

AURELIA, IOWA, April 1st. 1896.
The Messenger Co.,
Aurelia, Iowa.

Gentlemen: I am well satisfied with the results of my advertisement in the MESSENGER. It has paid me better than a similar advertisement in other poultry papers whose advertising rates were more than four times as high as yours.

P. D. WINE

RUTHERFORD BROS.

BREEDERS OF

White Wonders.

The hardest of all fowls, and the best general purpose breed for the north. One or two good cockerels for sale at \$3 each.

RUTHERFORD BROTHERS,
Aurelia, Iowa.

First Be Sure You're Right.

Do not be too quick to condemn the breeder of whom you purchased eggs this spring because in color the chicks do not appear as you think they should. The chicks of some breeds are well calculated to excite a suspicion of impure blood in the minds of people without experience in the handling of the variety. Black Langshans, for instance, are not all black when hatched, and even after they have attained considerable size many of them will show feathers which would disqualify them if found in the plumage after reaching an age fitting them for exhibition. But if they are fullbloods these objectionable feathers will all disappear by the time the fowls have attained their maturity. The same thing is true with regard to other breeds, and this frequently gives rise to correspondence for which people later on feel called upon to make an apology. Unless one is well acquainted with the breed, it is best not to be too hasty in accusing the seller of the eggs of wrong-doing. It is moderately safe to go on the theory that the great majority of breeders of thoroughbred poultry know what they are doing, and are honest enough to furnish their patrons with what they pay for.

Hubbard Squash for Chickens.

If you have a vacant piece of ground that you do not have more pressing need of, plant it to Hubbard squash, and during the cold weather of next winter cut the squashes in halves, bake in the oven of the kitchen stove, and feed to the hens while still warm. They soon become exceedingly fond of the squash when fed in this way, and it helps to give variety to the winter ration. Any time between now and the first of June will do for planting the seed of the Hubbard squash. We know of no better use that the poultry keeper can put a small piece of ground to than this, or one that will give a greater bulk of feed of a kind which it is very important to provide for the winter season.

Oat meal, as commonly sold at the grocery stores, makes a good feed for chicks. It has always been our habit to cook it before feeding, but one of the most successful poultry breeders of our acquaintance feeds it dry with excellent results.

Not a Matter of Chance.

There are a great many disputed points in poultry culture, and some people seem to distress themselves a good deal over this fact. One person will tell you that the laying qualities of hens cannot be brought to the highest development in confinement—that they must have free range to attain their best in this respect. Another says he gets the most eggs when his hens are confined in yards and fed according to a system which experience has taught him is the best that can be devised. One man will advise you to keep pullets if you want to obtain the most eggs, another is ready to prove to you that pullets will not lay any more eggs than one and two year old hens. It is believed by some that there is no getting along without ventilators to the houses, while others affirm that they are not only unnecessary, but are positively injurious. And lastly, one breeder favors the feeding of corn freely, while another is of the opinion that the feeding of corn, except in the most sparing manner, leads to the sum of all evils in the poultry yards.

But all this does not prove that poultry keeping is a haphazard business, or that the results which are sought after are a mere matter of chance. It simply shows that all people cannot reach the same ends by the same means. No two farmers will perfectly agree as to the best manner of growing a crop of wheat or oats, though both are working the same kind of soil, and are subject to same conditions of climate. The difference in methods will increase in proportion to the distance which separates them, and it would argue a poor acquaintance with their business for two people working under widely different conditions to try to agree upon a system which could be adopted with equal success by both. The same thing is true of stock farming of whatever kind.

Poultry keeping is not the same in the north and the south, in the mountainous country of the east and the prairie region of the west. The plan of management must be varied to meet the conditions peculiar to the different localities. When we consider, in connection with this, the individual tastes, education, habit of mind, and personal surroundings of breeders, we can easily find an explanation of the lack of agreement as to methods.

The MESSENGER only 25-cts a year.

Notice the market quotations at the present time and you will observe that where roosters are quoted at from 8 to 10 cents per pound capons are worth from 18 to 20 cents. It requires no argument to prove that the poultry breeders of the country are losing a lot of money by selling roosters instead of capons. They ought to stop it.

Excellent for Poultry Houses.

The James E. Patton Company, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, manufacture a low priced paint for barns and other outbuildings which is excellently adapted to the needs of poultrymen. Those who are looking for a paint for their poultry houses cannot find anything better for the purpose than that made by the Patton Company. Write for their price list and samples of colors. We can give the most positive assurance to our readers that this company is perfectly reliable, and can be safely trusted to do the right thing by those who have dealings with them.

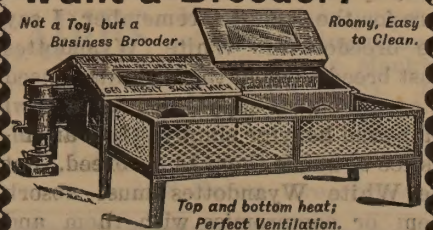
Did You Ever Make Money Easy?

Mr. EDITOR:—I have read how Mr. C. E. B., made so much money in the Dish Washer business, and think I have beat him. I am very young yet, and have had little experience in selling goods, but have made over eight hundred dollars in ten weeks selling Dish Washers. It is simply wonderful how easy it is to sell them. All you have to do is to show the ladies how they work and they cannot help but buy one. For the benefit of others I will state that I got my start from the Mound City Dish Washer Co., St. Louis, Mo. Write to them and they will send you full particulars.

I think I can clear over \$3,000 the coming year, and I am not going to let the opportunity pass. Try it and publish your experience for the benefit of others. J. F. C.

Want a Brooder?

Not a Toy, but a Business Brooder. Roomy, Easy to Clean.



Top and bottom heat; Perfect Ventilation.

New 'American' Incubator and Brooder

POULTRY SUPPLIES

MOST COMPLETE STOCK IN AMERICA.

OUR BOOK, "EVERYTHING FOR THE POULTRY YARD," Tells All. 60 pages, finely illustrated, full of information. If you keep a hen you want it. Sent for 2c stamp.

GEO. J. NISSLY, Saline, Mich.

Want Larger Wyandottes.

Mr. I. K. Felch, in an article for the Poultry Herald, says that the demand for larger size in the White Wyandotte has led to the breeding of White Wonders with the feathers off the legs, and that these birds are being used to raise the weight of the White Wyandottes. Mr. Felch favors the naming of the product of this cross the White Americans, and, if we understand aright, the discarding of both the White Wonder and the White Wyandotte. He argues that the White Wyandotte must lose prestige if it cannot be brought to greater size than now required by the standard, and thinks by substituting for it a new breed possessing in all essential particulars the qualities of the Wyandottes, and, besides, having the weight and size so much desired, will be preferable to holding on to several varieties so nearly alike. Mr. Felch states his conclusions in the matter as follows:

"While those who are contending for the mastery are fighting, should our exhibition managers all unite in offering prizes for White Americans with weight and name and description as indicated above—and refuse prizes to White Wyandottes and Wonders—two seasons would settle the whole business and establish these fowls in a fixed type and weight, a fixed Standard—and a future which could not be wrested from them. Is it not a fact—that in all breeds that the large, generous proportioned specimens of a breed always sell for the most money. Do not purchasers always point out these when asking the seller to name a price? Can we sell at half price any specimen under Standard weight, all else being equal?

Then do not for a moment, breeder, think to dodge the situation, but prepare for the fight, for remember, I say the breeders of White Wyandottes must breed to have the weights raised or see their pets supplanted by a fowl—a pound heavier simply. It is an injustice to admit them as a breed, but the White Wyandottes must absorb them or compromise with them and meet them at a mean weight and in a new name. In which case let it be the White American, and they under it, receive a like boom the Laced variety received in 1883."

The MESSENGER and the Poultry Herald one year for 50 cents.

Summer Ventilation.

It is important that fresh air should be admitted to the poultry house during the warm nights of spring and summer. Windows can now safely be opened and kept open for the balance of the summer. It is not best to have a strong draught directly over the perches, but in summer we would even chance this rather than have the fowls shut up in a close unventilated poultry house during the hot weather.

But when the windows are left open half inch wire netting should be stretched across the open space if there is any reason to fear the invasion of the poultry house by weasels, minks, skunks or dogs; and as there is no means of telling when such an invasion may take place, it hardly pays to take the risks in order to save the cost of the netting. Instances can be recalled by the writer where a weasel has destroyed the half of a large flock in a single night without having given any previous intimation of its presence in the neighborhood. Only incessant care and watchfulness will give security against enemies of this kind.

There is no difference of opinion among experienced poultry breeders as to the need of constant ventilation in the poultry houses after the freezing weather of winter is over. However much they may dispute over the question of ventilation as a part of the winter system of caring for poultry, they are of one mind as to the necessity of open and airy houses during the summer. It is universally agreed that it is indispensable to the perfect health of the flock. Tightly, well built poultry houses, which have been constructed mainly with a view to protecting the flock from the frosts of winter, do not always afford the facilities which they should for admitting fresh air in summer, but whatever advantages they possess in this particular should be utilized to the fullest extent.

Feed Grass.

If it is necessary to keep a flock of hens confined to a bare yard in the summer, let the principal part of the ration be grass. Nothing is better than the cuttings from the lawn, particularly if they contain a large proportion of white clover. It will be observed that the hens will pick out all the clover before eating any of the blue grass. If a scythe has been used for mowing the

grass, it should be run through a straw cutter and reduced to half inch lengths before being thrown into the yards. Grain cannot be entirely discarded in summer. Notwithstanding the prejudice against corn, we cannot be persuaded that it is best to refuse the hens a reasonable allowance of it at any time, but as a matter of course it should be fed much more sparingly in summer than in winter. But freshly cut grass should be the main dependence at this season of the year. Grass meets the necessities of the fowls more nearly than anything else, promotes health and thrift, and reduces the cost of maintaining the flock to the lowest figure. Those who are not in the habit of feeding it will be surprised at the quantity of it the hens will consume in the course of a day.

West Bend, Iowa, Feb., 20, '96.

Mr. A. H. Lane,

Keosauqua, Iowa.

Dear Sir:

Received the chickens all O. K. yesterday. Am much pleased with them. The Light Brahmas suit me the best. I never saw nicer.

Yours respectfully,

E. M. KENNEDY.

THE Leghorn Home,

MARRIAM PARK, MINN.

S. C. W. Leghorns S. C. B.
EXCLUSIVELY.

Winners wherever shown. Send for circular No. 2.

Leghorn Incubator.

Our Own Make.

Constructed on the latest and Most Scientific Principles. Guaranteed to do the work or money refunded. Most simple and accurate regulator of heat yet invented. Made, used and sold by practical poultrymen. Send for Circular No. 21.

Agents Wanted.

CURE CAROWE Roup

In poultry. Price 50 cents. Walter Kirby & Co., Marietta, Ohio.

The Loss Is Too Heavy.

Scarcely more than half the young chicks that are hatched are conducted safely through the dangers of infantile chickenhood and brought to maturity. A large proportion of them succumb to the various disorders to which the downy youngsters are liable to fall victims during the first few weeks of their lives. Improper feeding, overfeeding and exposure are responsible for most of these troubles. The addle-pated old hen succeeds in getting her foot on a few of them and keeping it there throughout a night. The next morning you rake the dead chicken out of the coop with a stick and say some things to the hen which are not complimentary to her intelligence, notwithstanding the fact that she is protesting all the while against what she considers your unwarrantable interference with her duties, and expressing a concern and solicitude for the safety of her flock which would be admirable if reduced to practice. Later on the rats, the cats and the hawks get a taste of spring chicken, and like it so well that they conclude to make it a part of their regular diet for the balance of the summer. Some of the brood get bewildered in the tall grass and never find their way back to the coop. Some of them are drowned in the rain storms, or killed by hail, or smothered after weaning, and a goodly lot of them are eaten up by lice while the owner is ready to declare that he has not seen a louse around anywhere during the summer. The losses from all these causes, and a score of others, are going on from day to day, and are not apparent to the careless breeder till towards the end of the season. Then he begins to wonder what has become of all his young chickens. In the nursery coop which contained ten or twelve chicks at weaning time, he finds five or six, or perhaps less. All the broods have been amazingly reduced, and he finds that he has not got more than half the chickens that he thought he had.

Now this is a very expensive way to carry on the chicken business, and the man who cannot do better than that had better quit and try something else. In the absence of contagious diseases, fifty per cent is a loss for which there can be no excuse. A careful poultryman would think he was doing a poor business if he did not succeed in rearing seventy-five per cent of his young

chickens. But this cannot be done with shackling, dirty coops, or without constant oversight of the flock. The person who succeeds to this extent visits every coop at dark, and sees that the inmates are made safe for the night. When he gives them their freedom in the morning, if one is missing he detects the fact at once, and begins to look around for the cause of its disappearance. It will be only a few of his chickens that are lost before he will know where they have gone, and he will find a means of putting a stop to their disappearance in that way. It requires unceasing watchfulness and attention to successfully guard against all the dangers to which the flocks are exposed, and if one is not of the right make-up for this kind of work, he is out of place in the poultry business. The careless, indolent, easy going fellow who trusts principally to luck in such matters, will be convinced that the fates have decreed he is to be the most unlucky person in the world if he undertakes to make a livelihood by rearing poultry.

C. D. Bates, Au Sable, Michigan, announces that he has sold his stock and fixtures to H. L. Cole, and adds: "In making an announcement you can recommend Mr. Cole. I consider him very worthy of the full confidence of the public."—Poultry Herald.

A Yard For the Brood Coops.

Construct a small yard about the nursery coops. Don't keep the hen confined to the inside of the coop unless it is very large and roomy. A rod of poultry netting formed into a circle and surrounding the coop will give her a small space in which to scratch and exercise, and make her much more contented. Many chicks are maimed and killed by the hen's frantic efforts to force her way out between the bars of the coop. This can in a measure be prevented by means of the arrangement here suggested. After the chicks are old enough to follow the hen out on the range the netting can be removed, and made to do the same service for a younger brood. This is easily done, as it is not necessary to staple the wire to posts. All that is required is to form it in a ring and set it up on end, enclosing the coop in the circle. These fences will more than pay for themselves every year.

Could You Get Us 25 Subscribers?

If so we will make you a present of a No. 2 Comet Spray Pump, and when you have it you will admit that it is the handiest thing you ever had about you for use in and around your poultry house. By means of this pump you can whitewash the inside of your poultry house in five minutes and do a better job than can be done with a brush in two hours. It can't be called work to whitewash with this pump—it is simply fun. You can easily get the 25 subscribers in a day if you undertake to do it. Try it. Such a machine as this is well worth the effort. We use a Comet ourselves, and are not afraid to recommend it. It is made of brass throughout, and with ordinary care will last a lifetime. We pay the express charges

All interested in poultry send 10 cts in stamps to Des Moines Incubator Co., Des Moines, Iowa, for book on practical poultry keeping, containing much valuable information.

Standard Buff LEGHORNS

I want every person interested in this popular and beautiful breed to send for our large, 4-page '95 circular free, stamp accepted. I have one of the finest flocks, and prize winners, scoring 94½ by Felch to 93½ by Drevensedt. Also Black Javas and Columbian Wyandottes. Get my circular sure.

GEO. S. BARNES,

Battle Creek Mich.

SIMPLEX HATCHER & BROODER combined. The most Perfect Incubator Made. Hatches every egg that a hen could hatch; Regulates itself automatically; Reduces the cost of poultry raising to a minimum. Send for Illus. Catalogue. Simplex Manuf'g Co., Quincy, Ill.



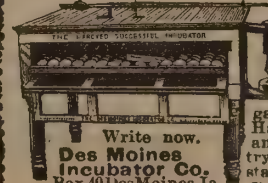
LADIES Make big money, quick sales and lasting customers selling our Mackintosh skirts and other new goods. Be first to sell them. Fresh territory Catalogue free.

Ladies Supply Company,

3118, Forest Ave., Chicago.

SUCCESSFUL INCUBATOR

Our magnificent new catalogue giving full information regarding artificial Hatching & Brooding and treatise on poultry raising sent for 4c stamps. Circular free.



Write now. Des Moines Incubator Co. Box 40 Des Moines, Ia

The Poultry Messenger.

AND

Western Fruit-Grower.

Published the 15th of every month by

The Messenger Company.

AURELIA, IOWA.

Subscription Price, 25 Cents per Year
 ADVERTISING RATES,--Sixty Cents per
 inch, each insertion.

BREEDERS' CARDS.

Thirty words three months for sev-
 enty-five cents

The fellow who is afraid that poultry culture will not afford him sufficient mental pabulum for the exercise of his talents, had better get elected to congress. He could easily pass as a very fair congressman without having head enough for a successful poultryman. And we are speaking the literal truth when we say that it takes more sense than such a fellow possesses to build up a poultry business of respectable proportions.

Could the Publishers' Protective Association suggest some mode of protecting the editors of the poultry papers from the fellow who insists upon knowing which is the "best breed?"

The poultry keeper's hens that buy his bread and butter, and pay his bills at the grocery stores, bear no closer relation to "pet stock" than do the dairyman's cows, or the farmer's hogs and cattle. The close association of poultry with pet stock tends in no small degree to keep up the delusion that poultry culture is a trifling occupation which should be engaged in with a view to pleasure rather than profit.

The practical poultry breeder should show a greater willingness to come to the front and tell what he knows, or else cease his talk about the dearth of new ideas in the poultry papers. The road to fame lies straight before him if he is conscious of so many new things lying around loose which the papers have not succeeded in getting hold of.

The western farmer who thinks that poultry breeding is a small business, is invited to consider if it is any smaller business than growing oats and corn at ten and fifteen cents a bushel.

Trying to rear thoroughbred poultry without a Standard of Perfection is a good deal like running a locomotive without time table or schedule. The engineer could make the thing go all right, but when he reached a station he would never know whether he ought to be there or some place else.

For somebody to pay twenty-five or fifty dollars for a chicken, is not a remarkable circumstance, except to those who have no correct knowledge regarding what a fowl that sells for such a figure is worth. The people who spend their money in this way know what they are about, while those who snicker at them for so doing simply make a display of ignorance which can be pitied, but with which it would be worse than useless to hold any argument.

However clever you may be, or think yourself to be, bear in mind that somewhere, at sometime, you will run up against somebody who knows all that you do, and a job lot more; and he doesn't have to swear to the fact.—California Poultry Tribune.

The most that a poultry paper can do for its advertisers is to open up communication between those who want to buy and those who want to sell. With the act of selling it has nothing to do. When it is the means of bringing a letter to the advertiser from a party who would like to own some of his stock, it has done all that can be asked of it, and is to no extent responsible if the sale is not completed. The paper, if it does anything for him at all, simply helps the advertiser to find people who desire to purchase, not to obtain for him buyers.

The MESSENGER believes in allowing every breeder of poultry to express his opinions freely and fully, but in so doing it is expected that all will show a decent respect for the opinions of others. It is not to be inferred that because our columns are open to all for this purpose that any one has a license to use discourteous or insulting language in his endeavor to disprove what has been said by some other correspondent. Our columns can be used for the decorous discussion of any subject having any relation to poultry culture, but we want it understood that they are not a sewer for the reception

of any kind of offensive stuff which a coarse minded person might see fit to empty into them. A communication of that character now rests in our waste basket, where it will remain buried, notwithstanding the fact we have been warned that we will pay full advertising rates for it if it is not brought forth and made to see the light of day.

Every time you communicate with the office of your favorite poultry paper send a few names, gathered from your correspondence with people engaged in poultry culture. No breeder of poultry ever lost anything by dropping in to that kind of a habit.

A pen of disqualified birds comes handy in the spring of the year for meeting the frequent demand for a dozen or two fresh eggs "for table use." You want to be accommodating, and furnish this class of customers with what they call for.

The main points of a 100 point bird are mostly to be found in the legs, comb, eyes, wattles and feather—just the very things we throw away when the fowl is killed.—Poultry Keeper.

Secretaries Olney and Carlisle recently consented, for the first time since they held office, to be photographed seated at their desks. The pictures were taken at the request of The Ladies' Home Journal, and will be used to illustrate ex-President Harrison's article describing the workings of the State Department in the July number of that magazine.

Money Made in a Minute.

I have not made less than sixteen dollars any day while selling Centrifugal Ice Cream Freezers. Anyone should make from five to eight dollars a day selling cream, and from seven to ten dollars selling freezers, as it is such a wonder, there is always a crowd wanting cream. You can freeze cream elegantly in one minute, and that astonishes people so they all want to taste it and then many of them buy freezers as the cream is smooth and perfectly frozen. Every freezer is guaranteed to freeze cream perfectly in one minute. Anyone can sell ice cream and the freezer sells itself. My sister makes from ten to fifteen dollars a day. J. F. Casey & Co., 1143 St. Charles St., St. Louis, Mo., will mail you full particulars free, so you can go to work and make lots of money anywhere, as with one freezer you can make a hundred gallons of cream a day, or if you wish they will hire you on a salary.

Notes About Chickens and Fruits.

And Answers to Queries.

Address all communications for this department to O. P. Greer, Bourbon, Indiana, and mention the MESSENGER.

John Thomas in looking over the advertisements in the poultry journals finds very few breeders of the Dark Brahmas, and wants to know why they are not more extensively bred.

Give it up.

What breed of ducks would you advise me to get for large size, quick growers and good layers?—Fred. S.

The Pekin.

Are the Black Spanish as good layers, as good foragers and as hardy as the Leghorns?—S. S. W.

As foragers the Black Spanish are similar to the Leghorns. They are a lively fowl, lay a very large white egg, but not quite so many of them as the Leghorn. They are not considered as hardy as the Leghorn. It is universally admitted that the Leghorn, taking the year through, and considering the early maturity of the pullets, is the best breed in existence for egg production.

There is no better opening for a young man or woman than poultry keeping. If properly conducted the business will be remunerative.

Have you got a Standard? A bird that is disqualified by the American Standard of Perfection is not fit to use as a breeder, and you should select them out this summer and fall to flavor noodles. There is a glossary in the Standard that will explain all the technical terms such as vulture-hock, squirrel tail, knock-kneed, hen-feathered, duck-foot, primaries, secondaries, and a hundred other things you must know if you make a success of fancy poultry.

If you like music keep ducks and guineas. It is said that guineas will drive hawks and rats from the poultry yard. If a hen thief should visit your poultry yard at night, the ducks will give the alarm, and with shotgun in hand you can charge the fearful foe, nor lose a single hen.

See that your fowls and chicks have plenty of fresh water daily. Never allow them to want for pure fresh water during the hot sultry days of summer.

In raising chicks you must learn not only what to do, but also what not to do.

Black Spanish are Hardy.

BY JOHN BENNETT, SUNMAN, IND.

I find that many people otherwise well posted on the dominant qualities of the various breeds of chickens, still hold to the belief that the Black Spanish are less hardy than others of the class to which they belong. Now I have been breeding the Black Spanish for a great many years, and they are my favorite breed. If they are more difficult to raise, or are in any respect less hardy than the Leghorns or Minorcas, I have failed to discover the fact. I cannot account for the prevalence of the idea of their tenderness except on the assumption that somebody must at some time have got hold of a strain possessing some constitutional weakness which does not attach to the breed as a whole. This might happen with any breed, but it seems to have been the misfortune of the Spanish to suffer a depreciation in some such manner as this which other breeds have escaped.

I hatched out 40 Black Spanish chicks in February, and they are all alive today, excepting two that were crushed by the hen. I defy anyone to show a more lively, thrifty lot of chicks than these. Would any breeder of the so-called hardy breeds expect any better results than this at the same time of year. My experience is that while the Spanish do not feather quite so soon as the Leghorns or Minorcas, they are stronger, and with the same care a larger per cent of them will survive. I have in mind numerous instances that lead me to believe that they have a capacity for resisting disease which cannot be claimed for the breeds above mentioned. A customer recently wrote me that he had just had a siege of the cholera which carried off nearly all of his flocks, but that the Black Spanish were affected by it in smaller degree than anything else on the place.

I cannot believe that my experience with this excellent breed is greatly different from that of others who have had healthy stock to start with, and I am, therefore, driven to the conclusion that much that we see in the papers in regard to the tenderness of the Black Spanish is written by people of no acquaintance with them other than what they have obtained in a second hand manner. If all these people would get possession of a flock of Spanish, and test them alongside of other breeds, I

am badly mistaken if the papers would not soon be telling a different story about them.

BREEDERS' CARDS.

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS exclusively. Eggs 15 for 75 cents. M. M. Garing, Montezuma, Iowa.

WILLIS WHINERY, SALEM, O., breeder of 20 varieties of full blood poultry. Eggs \$1 per 13; \$2 per 30. Write for what you want

SEND TO JOE FARMER, FLUSHING, Ohio, for circular of Choice Barred Plymouth Rocks and eggs.

BLACK MINORCAS, WINNERS at two banner shows, Cleveland and Pittsburg, winning eight premiums and two specials on eight entries at Pittsburg show. Fine breeding cockerels at reasonable prices. Eggs in season. Write for circular. Robert Mairer, Akron, Ohio.

IMPORTED AND DOMESTIC BLK and White Langshans. E. A. R., sure roup cure. A. H. Ascher, Princeton, Ill.

L. BRAHMAS, B. JAVA, R. C. B. Leghorns, from high scoring birds. Eggs \$1.25 per 15. Geo. Hammetter, Sumner, Bremer county, Iowa.

SILVER SPANGLED HAMBURGs exclusively. Be sure and send for my illustrated circular—it is free. W. F. Metz, Ionia, Michigan.

PANSY POULTRY FARM, PANSY, Pa. Thirteen varieties of land and water fowls. Send stamp for circular.

MRS. M. A. SMITH, GILMAN, Iowa., has gilt edge stock of Black and White Langshans. Egg circular free.

GREAT BIG LIGHT BRAHMAS, Eggs and stock for sale in season at hard time prices. Our stock will suit you. L. M. Rowe, Galva, Iowa.

WHITE FACED BLK. SPANISH. I have bred them for 32 years. Eggs \$2 per 13. Discount on larger quantity. Circular and my photograph free. John Bennett, Sunman, Ripley County, Indiana.

BLACK LANGSHANS, L. BRAHMAS, and Laced Wyandottes. Eggs \$1.50 per 13, all first-class. Two eggs extra if you mention the MESSENGER. Stock for sale in the fall. S. E. Harsh, Newton, Iowa. (Jasper county.)

BUFF WYANDOTTE COCKERELS. Only a few left. Two dollars each. Or will exchange for honey bees. P. D. Wine, Aurelia, Iowa.

FREDERICK E. COLEMAN, Manchester Green, Conn., breeder of Barred Ply. Rocks and W. C. Black Polish. Eggs for hatching, \$1.25 per 13; \$2.00 per 26. Good stock and fair play.

Fruit Growing.

We have 182,000 farmers in Iowa in need of 182,000 orchards of 100 trees each. Let each of these farmers next year select from such hardy varieties as Duchess, Wealthy, Whitney, Roman Stem, Tallman Sweet, and Iowa Blush one hundred or more seeds, and plant, care for and tend them; let this be repeated for at least three years; if in that time one hundred of these seeds grow they will have 150 trees each, and as they are all from hardy stock, the trees must be hardy whatever the character of the fruit. If, when these trees come into bearing, one or more desirable apples is obtained, use scions from these desirable sorts to top work the others, and they may all be top worked to advantage before they are ten years old. If scions of better sorts can be had of brother farmers, or from any other source whether those better sorts are foreigners or natives, get them. Now, if one half of these 182,000 farmers will adopt this plan, we will certainly be able to get a few hundred very desirable apples, suited to every locality and every season, and that in a very few years.—Iowa Hor. Report.

This may be new work to our farmers, but it is plain and simple, and it is not as much work to plant and raise from seed a hundred yearling apple trees as it is to set a hen on a dozen eggs and rear her clutch of chickens till they are a year old, nor will it cost one-half as much.

I wish I could thunder in the ears of every one of these 182,000 farmers the possibilities they have in their hands of supplying themselves in the near future with the choicest of apples. If they would enter into this work in the right spirit the northwest in the no distant future would as far surpass Russia in the production of fruits suited to our climate, as the free, intelligent, American citizen of Iowa surpasses the ignorant, unlettered serf of Russia, and the praises of their deeds would be echoed down the flight of time, and be chanted in the chorus of revolving years.

On receipt of 10 cents and the names of ten poultry breeders, we will send the MESSENGER one year. Tote fair with us, and send us only names of breeders, not farmers, except in the case of farmers who breed thoroughbred poultry.

Buff Plymouth Rocks

EXCLUSIVELY.

I am Breeding
Three Pens of Them.

PEN NUMBER ONE CONTAINS

Four Pullets scoring respectively 93, 93½, 94, 94½, winning everything at Illinois State Fair, Bloomington, and Illinois State Poultry Shows.

For utility and beauty the Buff is the Rock of them all. Mine are the original Coin Gold strain, and their score proves their standard value.

EGGS \$3.00 PER SETTING.

Get a setting and climb with us to the summit of glory on Plymouth Rock.

ISRAEL ROOT, Bloomington, Illinois.

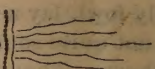
A. L. BELEW, AURELIA,
Iowa.

◆◆◆BREEDER OF◆◆◆

BLACK LANGSHANS

No stock for sale.

Eggs \$2.00 per setting of 15.

White Plymouth Rocks. 
ALFRED ANDREY, CHOICE STOCK
Aurelia, Iowa.

Do You

Ever stop to think how few there are engaged in poultry keeping as a business who ever make a success of it? A fancier who has a flock of thoroughbreds as a hobby is successful if he only get a pleasure for his pains. He keeps hens. It is one thing to

Keep Hens

And another to make hens keep you. Sickness in the fowls and mortality among the broods causes many failures. These, traced to their source, would bring up among vermin. There's a breed of lice for all sizes and conditions of chickenhood to fowldom, which in addition to destroying life and vitality, worry their victims worse than the "Seven Years Itch;"

And Lice?

Must be kept at a distance. Lambert's "Death to Lice" is offered to you because it does the work quickly, cheaply and well; if it don't, send it back and get your money. It is to my interest to to make it as good as possible, and I do.

RETAIL PRICES:

5 oz. box postpaid 10 cents; 15-oz box 25 cents, postpaid 40 cts; 48-oz package 40 cents, postpaid \$1. 100-oz package, delivered to your Express Co. for \$1.

DEALERS SELL IT. SO DO WE, LOTS OF IT.

Pocket Book Pointers Sent Free. D. J. LAMBERT, Apponaug, R. I.

Bone and Shell FOR POULTRY.

Circular explaining benefit and how to feed it, and prices on lots of 100 lbs or more, delivered, freight paid at your railroad station, address

Fitch Fertilizer Works, Bay City, Mich.

Raw Bone has been proven by analysis to contain every part of an egg—White, Yolk and Shell. The lime of oyster shell furnishes shell material. The granulated size is for adult fowls; the meal is for chicks, and mixed with soft food. For

Nonpareil Poultry Yards, La Salle, Illinois.

J. A. WEERTS, PROP.

ROSE-COMB
BROWN

LEGHORNS,

SINGLE AND ROSE
COMB BLACK

MINORCAS.

No eggs for sale this season. Stock for sale in the fall, with score cards.



THE QUEEN

OF ALL IS

Woods Kitchen Cabinet

So the hundreds of housewives who have used it claim.

♦ ♦ ♦ POINTS: ♦ ♦ ♦

1st. Is a Necessity for any well regulated kitchen.

2nd. It is almost a complete kitchen within itself.

3rd. Saves Labor and material.

4th. Occupies small space.

5th. Honestly made and will never leak flour.

6th. Is an ornament. Easy to pay for.

We pay the freight. Send for catalogue to
RAUSCH MFG COMPANY, 274 Wabash Avenue, Chicago,



Is held in the highest favor wherever used.

The Only Practical Portable Fence Made.

Send for full particulars and prices to the

WINONA FENCE CO.

Sole and only manufacturers, WINONA, MINN.

The "WINONA BRAND"

Poultry Fence

Improved Chester Whites



BY MAIL.

Not the whole hog, but photographs of the very individual we offer you. Send us a description of what you want and we will send you a photograph of what we think will suit you. If you wish to purchase, we will send them free to be returned with order

WILLIS WHINERY, Salem, Ohio



THE
Ideal Skirt Hanger.

Use the Ideal and your dress will not look old after being worn a few times. Simple to use, inexpensive, and never gets out of order. Adjustable to any size. The Ideal is also used for hanging the dress waist upon. The Ideal Pantaloon hanger answers the same purpose for gentlemen in hanging their trousers as does the skirt hanger for ladies. Retail price, 25 c; three for 50c.

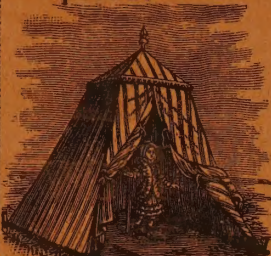
H. G. TUCKER,

Logansport, Indiana

407, 409, 411, 413 Fourth St.

A Beautiful LAWN TENT

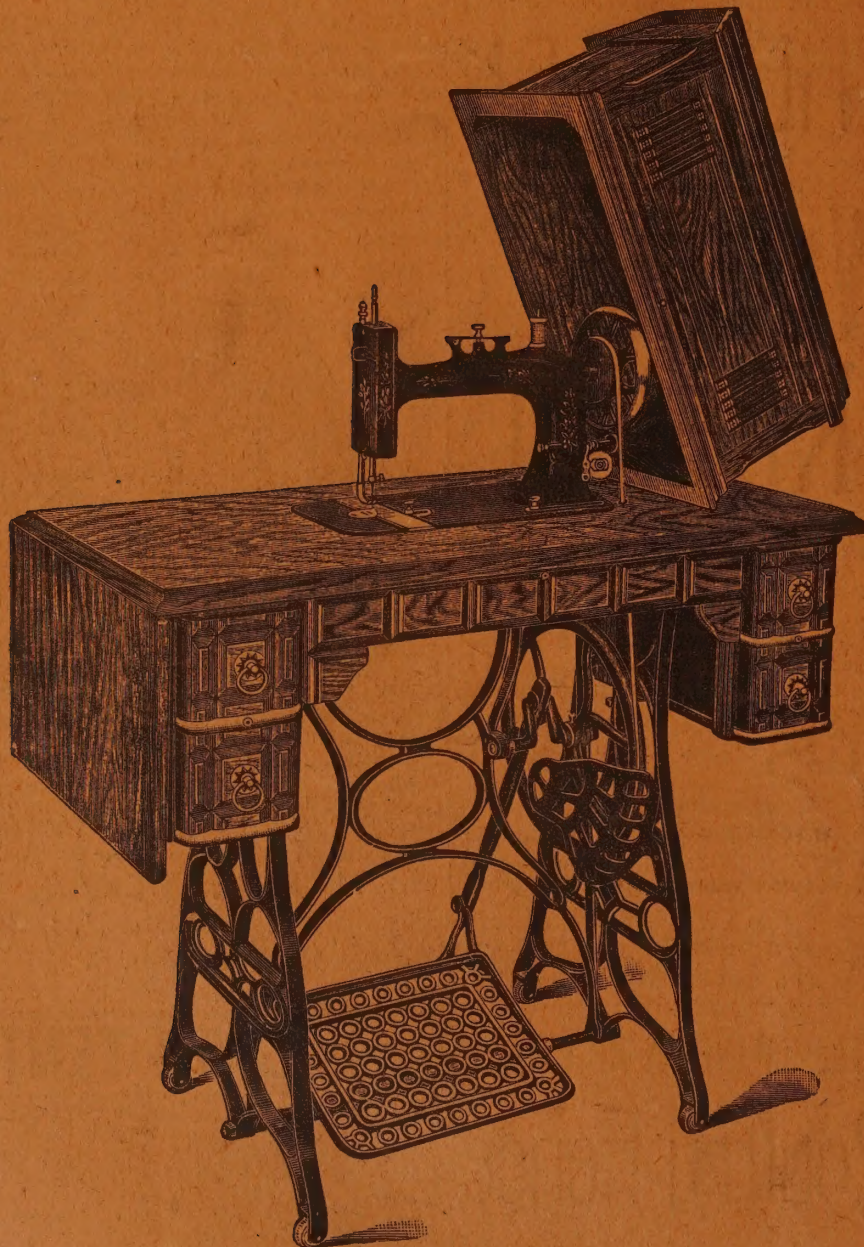
For \$5.00. Worth Double the Price.



7½ feet Square. Made of the best material in either blue or brown stripe. Just the thing or the lawn and absolutely indispensable for a picnic. Sent on receipt of \$5.00, ready for use. Headquarters for Camping Tents and Tents of all kinds. Send for illustrated Catalogue and Price List.

McAULEY-PETERS TENT & AWNING CO.
61 East Gay St., COLUMBUS, OHIO.

A 40-DOLLAR
Sewing Machine
FOR \$17.50.



We Pay the Freight

To any railroad point east of the Rocky Mountains, and contract to take the machine back and refund the money if it is not as represented. Send for descriptive circular, and testimonials of people who are using it.

The Messenger Company, Aurelia, Iowa

RAIL ROAD **Lands**

FOR SALE AT LOW PRICES AND ON EASY TERMS.

The Illinois Central Railroad Company offers for sale on easy terms and at low prices, 150,000 acres of choice fruit, gardening, farm and grazing lands located in

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS.

They are also largely interested in, and call especial attention to the 600,000 acres of land in the famous

Yazoo Valley
OF MISSISSIPPI

lying along and owned by the Yazoo & Mississippi Valley Railroad Company, and which that company offers at low prices and on long terms. Special inducements and facilities offered to go and examine these lands both in Southern Illinois and in the Yazoo Valley, Miss. For further description, map and any information, address or call upon E. P. SKENE, Land Commissioner, No. 1 Park Row, Chicago, Ill., or G. W. McGINNIS, Ass't Land Commissioner, Memphis; Tenn.

SEEDS Our Catalog
FOR 1896
IS FREE.

SEND FOR IT

We sell seeds in packets from 4 cents up. Large packets. We have everything for the vegetable garden.

Cupid Sweet Pea.

The only dwarf sweet pea in existence. YOU WANT IT.

EGGS!

B. P. Rocks, fine stock, 15 eggs for \$2.00
W. P. " " " " " 1.50

D. B. KETTERMAN,
Nursery, Illinois.

All-Free Poultry Yards.

BAXTER, IOWA,

Will mail you free their fine illustrated catalogue.